

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 112

Designating April 11th, 2003, as “National Youth Service Day”, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 9, 2003

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. STEVENS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating April 11th, 2003, as “National Youth Service Day”, and for other purposes.

Whereas National Youth Service Day is an annual public awareness and education campaign that highlights the amazing contributions that young people make to their communities throughout the year;

Whereas the goals of National Youth Service Day are to mobilize youths to identify and address the needs of their communities through service, recruit the next generation of volunteers, and educate the public about the contributions young people make as community leaders throughout the year;

Whereas young people in the United States are volunteering more than has any generation in American history;

Whereas the ongoing contributions young people make to their communities throughout the year should be recognized and encouraged;

Whereas young people should be viewed as the hope not only of tomorrow, but of today, and should be valued for the inherent idealism, energy, creativity, and commitment that they employ in addressing the needs of their communities;

Whereas there is a fundamental and absolute correlation between youth service and lifelong adult volunteering and philanthropy;

Whereas, through volunteer service and related learning opportunities, young people build character and learn valuable skills, including time management, teamwork, needs-assessment, and leadership, that are sought by employers;

Whereas service-learning, an innovative teaching method combining service to the community with classroom curriculum, is a proven strategy to increase academic achievement;

Whereas National Youth Service Day was first organized in 1988 by Youth Service America and the Campus Outreach Opportunity League, and is now being observed in 2003 for the 15th consecutive year;

Whereas Youth Service America continues to expand National Youth Service Day, now engaging millions of young people nationwide with 50 Lead Agencies in nearly every State to organize activities across the United States;

Whereas Youth Service America has expanded National Youth Service Day to involve over 60 National Partners;

Whereas National Youth Service Day has inspired Global Youth Service Day, which occurs concurrently in 127 countries and is now in its fourth year; and

Whereas young people will benefit greatly from expanded opportunities to engage in meaningful volunteer service: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. RECOGNITION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF**
3 **YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

4 The Senate recognizes and commends the significant
5 contributions of American youth and encourages the cul-
6 tivation of a common civic bond among young people dedi-
7 cated to serving their neighbors, their communities, and
8 the Nation.

9 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY.**

10 (a) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the
11 Senate that the President should designate April 11,
12 2003, as “National Youth Service Day”.

13 (b) PROCLAMATION.—The Senate requests the Presi-
14 dent to issue a proclamation—

15 (1) designating April 11, 2003, as “National
16 Youth Service Day”; and

17 (2) calling on the people of the United States
18 to—

1 (A) observe the day by encouraging and
2 engaging youth to participate in civic and com-
3 munity service projects;

4 (B) recognize the volunteer efforts of our
5 Nation's young people throughout the year; and

6 (C) support these efforts as an investment
7 in the future of our Nation.

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